

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-06 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

OMB-01 SR-02 ORM-01 SCA-01 A-01 /069 W

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P R 171200Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4711

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STOCKHOLM 2439

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, US, SW

SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER ANDERSSON ON CAMBODIA

REF: STOCKHOLM 2306

1. FOREIGN MINISTER ANDERSSON ANSWERED AN INTERPELLATION
IN PARLIAMENT MAY 15 REGARDING THE SITUATION OF THE
SWEDES WHO REMAINED IN CAMBODIA FOLLOWING THE FALL OF
PHNOM PENH APRIL 16. AS SECRETARY GENERAL SVERKER
ASTROM HAD ASSURED THE AMBASSADOR, THE FOREIGN MINISTER
MADE NO STATEMENTS WHICH COULD GIVE OFFENSE TO US AND,
IN FACT, HE DID NOT COMMENT ON INCIDENT INVOLVING U.S.
MERCHANT SHIP MAYAGUEZ.

2. ACCORDING TO MFA PRESS STATEMENT, ANDERSSON CENTERED
HIS REMARKS ON FATE OF FIVE SWEDES WHO HAD CHOSEN TO
REMAIN IN PHNOM PENH WHEN IT WAS THREATENED BY CAPTURE.
ALL FIVE HAD SOUGHT REFUGE AT FRENCH EMBASSY, WHERE
THEY REMAINED UNTIL EVACUATION BEGAN APRIL 29. ACCORDING
TO ANDERSSON, DURING THIS PERIOD GOS HAD SOUGHT
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"REPEATEDLY" TO OBTAIN "IMMEDIATE" EVACUATION OF THE

SWEDES THROUGH CONTACTS WITH THE FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTRY,
AND THE GRUNK REPRESENTATIVES IN PAIRS, HANOI AND PEKING.

3. IN ADDITION TO ANDERSSON' STATEMENT CONTAINED IN
MFA PRESS RELEASE, STOCKHOLM DAILY SVENSKA DAGBLADET
(CONSERVATIVE) REPORTS THAT IN DISCUSSION FOLLOWING HIS
STATEMENT, FOREIGN MINISTER DESCRIBED REPORTS FROM
CAMBODIA AS PAINTING A "FRIGHTENING PICTURE" AND SAID
THAT GOS IS "DEEPLY CONCERNED" BY EVENTS IN THAT
COUNTRY. ANDERSSON REPORTEDLY ADDED THAT SWEDISH
PUBLIC OPINION "CAN NOT UNDERSTAND THE MASSIVE MOVEMENT
OF PEOPLE WHICH THE CAMBODIAN REGIME HAS MADE,"
WHICH THE FOREIGN MINISTER LABELED AS BEING "AGAINST
BASIC HUMANITARIAN PRINCIPLES. *FOREIGN MINISTRY
OFFICIAL WHO WAS PRESENT SUBSEQUENTLY CONFIRMED TO
EMBASSY THAT SVENSKA DAGBLADET VERSION OF ANDERSSONS
REMARKS WAS CORRECT.

4. COMMENT: ANDERSSONS STATEMENT ON CAMBODIA
CONSTITUTES THE FIRST CRITICISM BY A HIGH-RANKING
SWEDISH OFFICIAL OF THE NEW REGIMES IN INDOCHINA AND
INDEED REPRESENTS A SIGNIFICANT DEPARTURE FROM THE
LONG-HELD GOS STANCE OF INVARIABLY CONDONING ACTIONS OF THE
COMMUNIST FORCES IN THE AREA.

STRAUSZ-HUPE

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